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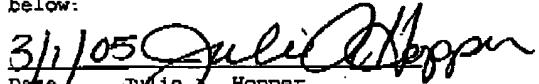
Docket No. 77017.1410

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No.: 10/696,284  
 Applicant(s): Akashe et al.  
 Filed: October 29, 2003  
 TC/A.U. 1761  
 Examiner: Weier, Anthony J.  
 Docket No. 77017.1410  
 Customer No.: 22242  
 Confirm. No.: 6489

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO, Fax. No. (703) 872-9306, or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below:

3/1/05   
 Date Julie A. Hopper  
 Registration No. 50,869  
 Agent for Applicant(s)

**AMENDMENT A UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the non-final Office Action mailed October 1, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.